

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 PC-10 AID-20 SP-03 EB-11 NSC-07

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 NSCE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01

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P 191612Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3467

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 3435

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD PFOR

SUBJECT: VENEZUELA AND DECISION 24 OF ANDEAN PACT

1. IN MY COURTESY CALL YESTERDAY AFTERNOON ON THE MINISTER FOR NATIONAL PLANNING, DR. GUMERSINDO RODRIQUEZ, I LIKEWISE PRESENTED OUR NEW PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR, PETER STEVENS, WHO WILL HAVE HIS PRINCIPAL POINT OF CONTACT WITH CORDIPLAN.

2. AFTER SOME OF THE DIRE PREDICTIONS FROM DIRECTORS OF U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE THAT VENEZUELA IS GOING TO ADOPT A RIGOROUSLY NATIONALISTIC STAND IN ITS INTERPRETATION OF DECISION 24 OF THE ANDEAN PACT, DR. RODRIQUEZ SAID THAT HE WOULD WELCOME ANY VIEWS WE MIGHT HAVE AS TO THE APPLICATION OF DECISION 24 TO U.S. FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN VENEZUELA.

3. ALL MINISTERS CONCERNED ARE WORKING OVERTIME TO PREPARE THE PRESIDENT'S NATIONWIDE ADDRESS MAY 1 WHICH WILL OUTLINE THE NEW ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL POLICIES OF THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT. LIKEWISE IT HAS BEEN ANTICIPATED THAT VENEZUELA MAY INDEED PRESENT ITS DEFINITIVE VIEWS ON
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DECISION 24 AT THE MEETING IN LIMA APRIL 30.

IN CONSEQUENCE, WE DO NOT HAVE MUCH TIME IN WHICH TO FORMULATE SUGGESTIONS; BUT I HAVE ASKED THE EMBASSY'S ECONOMIC SECTION TO GET TO WORK AT ONCE TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT QUICKLY REVIEW AND INSTRUCT US TO PRESENT AS DESIDERATA FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF U.S.-VENEZUELAN ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT RELATIONSHIPS. IT IS DIFFICULT TO ACCOMPLISH MUCH OVER THIS LONG HOLIDAY WEEKEND, BUT WE HOPE BY TUESDAY, APRIL 23, TO TELEGRAPH RECOMMENDATIONS. I BELIEVE THAT THE VISIT OF AMBASSADOR EBERLE ON APRIL 29 WILL COME TOO LATE TO BE OF MUCH AVAIL IN THIS REGARD ALTHOUGH HE COULD OF COURSE IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH MINISTERS REAFFIRM OUR HOPES FOR EQUITABLE TREATMENT IN THE APPLICATION BY VENEZUELA OF OF DECISION 24.

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